

Date: 04/09/2008

Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 071, HD1 (HSCR1400-08)/HR 062, HD1 (HSCR 1399-08) URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTYFOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT.

Purpose of Resolution: Urging the board of education to only purchase or lease large school buses that have an operable seat belt assembly at all designated seating positions and seat backs that are at least twenty-four inches in height.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (DOE) would support House Concurrent Resolution 71, which urges the Board of Education to purchase or lease only large school buses that are equipped with seat belts and have seat backs that are at least 24 inches in height, if the language of the resolution were to urge the Board to consider purchasing or leasing only large school buses with these characteristics.

For your information, the DOE currently leases 14 school buses that were acquired new in 2005, and we anticipate they will have a useful life of at least ten years. Because we have no plans at this time to acquire additional large school buses, we will not be in the market for buses until the current fleet needs to be replaced. We anticipate that by that time, the current national discussion about the desirability of equipping school buses with seat belts will have been settled, and it will be clearer as to whether seat belts on school buses are desirable.

We are in contact with student transportation administrators in school

districts that mandate seat belts to determine the impact of seat belts on school bus operations. We will continue to monitor this issue carefully.

FINTestimony

From: Jodi Stagers [jodirae5480@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2008 2:56 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: HR 62, HD1, April 9, 2008, agenda #1A

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice-chair Committee on Finance

From: Jodi Stagers

Strong Support for passage of HR 62 and HCR 71, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTY FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT.

I am a concerned citizen in favor of HR 62 and HCR 71.

We wear seatbelts in our own vehicles which is required by law; so why shouldn't we require our children to wear them on a school bus? Which is why we should require school buses to have seatbelts. I support seat belts on school buses for the following reasons.

1. It is a sad fact that children die in school bus accidents, at an average of 11 per year. Just because no child has YET to die in a school bus in Hawaii, does not mean that seat belts should not be available on school buses. Most school bus accident fatalities occur in rollover crashes. Seatbelts will help prevent injuries in rollover crashes and side crashes more than mere compartmentalization, the current safety method used for school buses. An accident in Kaimuki involving a dump truck and a school bus caused 12 children riding the bus to be hospitalized. The American Association of Pediatrics estimates about 6,000 to 10,000 children are injured in school buses per year and 3,000 to 5,000 of these children could be spared injury if they were wearing lap/shoulder seat belts. According to the 2007 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, shoulder/lap seat belts would make a child safer on large school buses: (see 49 CFR part 571 at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/Rulemaking/Rules/Associated%20Files/222UpgradeNPRMSept25.pdf>).

2. Loss of ridership is not an argument with the availability of "second generation" lap/shoulder seat belts as these seats combine compartmentalization with room for 2 large students to adults or 3 grade-school students per seat, the same number buses currently carry. (see http://safeguardseat.com/bus/products_flex_work.htm).

Any argument for inflating the cost of implementing the use of seat belts on school buses because of the need to purchase more buses due to loss of ridership is false and patently outdated. California and Texas have implemented such "second generation" seats on new school buses with no loss of ridership.

3. Implementing seat belts on school buses is not prohibitively expensive. The cost to outfit a large school bus with the "second generation" seating is about \$10,000 to \$14,000. It can be much more expensive to retrofit an older bus than a new one, and perhaps the bill can be amended to reduce the cost by calling for only newly acquired buses to have seat belts. Also to offset costs, an additional fee can be added to moving violations. For example, Texas used an additional \$15 fee per moving violation to fund seat belts on school buses.

4. Seat belt laws and huge amounts of government spending have convinced the public that wearing a seat belt saves lives. New York, New Jersey, Florida, Texas, Kansas and California have all passed laws requiring seat belts on school buses. Hawaii should follow the lead of these states and help protect children on school buses. How can a parent have their child in a child seat, booster seat, or seat belt at all times and not feel concerned that their child is not in a seat belt on a school bus? It just makes sense to have seat belts available on school buses in Hawaii.

Thank you for your time in allowing me to testify in favor of HR 62 and HCR 71. I support the implementation of seat belts on school buses.

Sincerely,
Jodi Stagers

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FINTestimony

From: Geoff Graf [geoff-graf@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2008 6:08 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Bills HR62 HD1 and HCR 71 HD1 - Testimony for Seatbelts in Hawaii's School Buses

Date: April 9, 2008

Attention: Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Re: HR62 HD1 and HCR 71 HD1; Hearing date April 9, 2008

Please support Bills for HR62 HD1 and HCR 71 HD1; REQUIRING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT.

Respectfully,

Geoffrey W. Graf
751 Kokomo Place
Honolulu, HI 96825
Phone 808.351.9086
Email: geoff-graf@hawaii.rr.com

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG.
Version: 7.5.519 / Virus Database: 269.22.10/1366 - Release Date: 4/8/2008 5:03 PM

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Version: 7.5.519 / Virus Database: 269.22.10/1366 - Release Date: 4/8/2008 5:03 PM

FINTestimony

From: Ann Thornock on behalf of Rep. Marilyn Lee
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2008 8:14 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FW: Strong Support for passage of HR 62 and HCR 71

From: Alison Lee [mailto:alisonlee@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2008 11:13 PM
To: Rep. Marilyn Lee
Subject: Strong Support for passage of HR 62 and HCR 71

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
 Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice-chair
 Committee on Finance

From: Alison Lee (print)

Strong Support for passage of HR 62 and HCR 71, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTY FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT.

I am a concerned citizen in favor of HR 62 and HCR 71. I support seat belts on school buses for the following reasons.

1. It is a sad fact that children die in school bus accidents, at an average of 11 per year. Just because no child has YET to die in a school bus in Hawaii, does not mean that seat belts should not be available on school buses. Most school bus accident fatalities occur in rollover crashes. Seatbelts will help prevent injuries in rollover crashes and side crashes more than mere compartmentalization, the current safety method used for school buses. An accident in Kaimuki involving a dump truck and a school bus caused 12 children riding the bus to be hospitalized. The American Association of Pediatrics estimates about 6,000 to 10,000 children are injured in school buses per year and 3,000 to 5,000 of these children could be spared injury if they were wearing lap/shoulder seat belts. According to the 2007 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, shoulder/lap seat belts would make a child safer on large school buses. (see 49 CFR part 571 at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/Rulemaking/Rules/Associated%20Files/222UpgradeNPRMSept25.pdf>).
2. Loss of ridership is not an argument with the availability of "second generation" lap/shoulder seat belts as these seats combine compartmentalization with room for 2 large students to adults or 3 grade-school students per seat, the same number buses currently carry. (see http://safeguardseat.com/bus/products_flex_work.htm). Any argument for inflating the cost of

implementing the use of seat belts on school buses because of the need to purchase more buses due to loss of ridership is false and patently outdated. California and Texas have implemented such "second generation" seats on new school buses with no loss of ridership.

3. Implementing seat belts on school buses is not prohibitively expensive. The cost to outfit a large school bus with the "second generation" seating is about \$10,000 to \$14,000. It can be much more expensive to retrofit an older bus than a new one, and perhaps the bill can be amended to reduce the cost by calling for only newly acquired buses to have seat belts. Also to offset costs, an additional fee can be added to moving violations. For example, Texas used an additional \$15 fee per moving violation to fund seat belts on school buses.

4. Seat belt laws and huge amounts of government spending have convinced the public that wearing a seat belt saves lives. New York, New Jersey, Florida, Texas, Kansas and California have all passed laws requiring seat belts on school buses. Hawaii should follow the lead of these states and help protect children on school buses.

As a mother of three children under the age of 6 years old, my job is to keep them as safe as possible. They know how important it is to be buckled up in their car seats, and have even questioned me about why there are no seat belts on the bus, and whether or not they would be safe. How can I tell my children that the people in charge of taking care of our state think that it is too expensive to ensure the safety of the children of Hawaii. I have been a rider with my children on school buses on numerous occasions over the past 4 years, and I can tell you, that I have actually feared for my safety and the safety of others aboard on several school bus rides, due to the horrifying driving style of the bus drivers in conjunction with the lack of seat belts.

Please take action on this very important matter, and help keep Hawaii's keiki safe.

Thank you for your time in allowing me to testify in favor of HR 62 and HCR 71. I support the implementation of seat belts on school buses.

Sincerely, Alison Lee (print)

(signature)

FINTestimony

From: Michael O'Shea [mosh@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2008 6:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Support

TO: Rep. Marcus Oshiro and Rep. Merylyn Lee...re: hearing date 4/9/08..we sincerely and deeply rquest that you support the child safety measures by voting for HR62 HDi and HR71 HDI...let us make every effort to provide saety for our children, Mahalo. Dr. Michael and Noriko O'Shea, 4818 Aukai Ave., Honolulu, HI 96816

FINTestimony

From: Lynn Parrish [parrishlynn@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2008 6:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Seatbelts in school buses

Attn Reps Marcus Oshiro and Marilyn Lee:

I fully support the use of seat belts in school buses.

Seat belts are necessary to protect children in case of accidents. There are laws requiring seat belt use in automobiles. The same laws should apply to children riding in school buses.

Lynn Parrish
2045 Coyne Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

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FINTestimony

From: john mctee [mcteej001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2008 11:10 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Fw: SUPPORT FOR HR62 HD1 AND HCR 71 HD1, Adjenda #1

----- Original Message -----

From: [john mctee](mailto:john.mctee)
To: Fintestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2008 9:43 PM
Subject: SUPPORT FOR HR62 HD1 AND HCR 71 HD1

attention: Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair and
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Please support HR62 HD1 AND HCR71 HD1, April 9, 2008. We need to protect our keiki on school busses just as much as we need to protect them in our own POV's.

Mahalo, Valentine L. McTee 91-745 Kilaha Street, Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706. Hearing date April 9, 2008

FINTestimony

From: Shawna Brizzolara [brizzola@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2008 6:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: seat belts support on school bus
Attachments: Card for Shawna Brizzolara <brizzola@hawaii.edu>

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice-chair
Committee on Finance

Please provide Strong Support for passage of HR 62 and HCR 71, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTY FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT. I am a concerned citizen in favor of HR 62 and HCR 71. I support seat belts on school buses for the following reasons.

1. It is a sad fact that children die in school bus accidents, at an average of 11 per year. According to the 2007 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, shoulder/lap seat belts would make a child safer on large school buses. (see 49 CFR part 571 at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/Rulemaking/Rules/Associated%20Files/222UpgradeNPRMSept25.pdf>).
2. Loss of ridership is not an argument with the availability of "second generation" lap/shoulder seat belts as these seats combine compartmentalization with room for 2 large students to adults or 3 grade-school students per seat, the same number buses currently carry. (see http://safeguardseat.com/bus/products_flex_work.htm). Any argument for inflating the cost of implementing the use of seat belts on school buses because of the need to purchase more buses due to loss of ridership is false and patently outdated. California and Texas have implemented such "second generation" seats on new school buses with no loss of ridership.
3. Implementing seat belts on school buses is not prohibitively expensive.
4. Seat belt laws and huge amounts of government spending have convinced the public that wearing a seat belt saves lives. New York, New Jersey, Florida, Texas, Kansas and California have all passed laws requiring seat belts on school buses.

Thank you for your time in allowing me to testify in favor of HR 62 and HCR 71. I support the implementation of seat belts on school buses.

Sincerely,
Shawna Brizzolara, MD

4/9/2008

FINTestimony

From: Hawaiian Bath & Body [soap@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2008 10:39 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: attn to: Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair & Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

What: Support for HR62 HD1 and HCR 71 HD1, URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT

When: TODAY, 1:15 PM, Wednesday April 9, 2008

Where: Hawaii State Capitol Conference Room 308

Aloha Reps,

Please give support to the "Seatbelt in Buses" Resolution. Were any of your children on the Kahuku bus that went into the ditch? Were you glad that they weren't? Keep our Keiki safe!!

Aloha and Mahalo!

Debora Driscoll
POB 209
Waialua, HI 96791

PH 808 637 8400

FINTestimony

From: alexis ostrowski [alexisdee@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2008 4:45 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: HR 62, HD1, April 9, 2008, agenda #1A

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
 Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice-chair
 Committee on Finance

I am writing to voice my support for passage of HR 62 and HCR 71, which URGE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTY FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT.

I first heard about HR 62 and HCR 71 from my sister who is very involved in safety issues in the Hawaiian school system. When she first told me about bills, I was shocked, as I was unaware that seatbelts were NOT EVEN AVAILABLE on school buses. Everyone is required to wear seatbelts in cars, and I believe this should be the same for school buses.

I support seat belts on school buses for the following reasons.

1. Children die in school bus accidents, at an average of 11 per year. Just because no child has YET to die in a school bus in Hawaii, does not mean that seat belts should not be available on school buses. Most school bus accident fatalities occur in rollover crashes. Seatbelts will help prevent injuries in rollover crashes and side crashes more than mere compartmentalization, the current safety method used for school buses. An accident in Kaimuki involving a dump truck and a school bus caused 12 children riding the bus to be hospitalized. The American Association of Pediatrics estimates about 6,000 to 10,000 children are injured in school buses per year and 3,000 to 5,000 of these children could be spared injury if they were wearing lap/shoulder seat belts. According to the 2007 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, shoulder/lap seat belts would make a child safer on large school buses. (see 49 CFR part 571 at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/Rulemaking/Rules/Associated%20Files/222UpgradeNPRMSept25.pdf>).
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3. Implementing seat belts on school buses is not prohibitively expensive. The cost to outfit a large school bus with the "second generation" seating is about \$10,000 to \$14,000. It can be much more

expensive to retrofit an older bus than a new one, and perhaps the bill can be amended to reduce the cost by calling for only newly acquired buses to have seat belts. Also to offset costs, an additional fee can be added to moving violations. For example, Texas used an additional \$15 fee per moving violation to fund seat belts on school buses.

4. Seat belt laws and huge amounts of government spending have convinced the public that wearing a seat belt saves lives. New York, New Jersey, Florida, Texas, Kansas and California have all passed laws requiring seat belts on school buses. Hawaii should follow the lead of these states and help protect children on school buses. How can a parent have their child in a child seat, booster seat, or seat belt at all times and not feel concerned that their child is not in a seat belt on a school bus? It just makes sense to have seat belts available on school buses in Hawaii.

Thank you for your time in allowing me to testify in favor of HR 62 and HCR 71. I support the implementation of seat belts on school buses.

Sincerely,

Alexis Ostrowski

To: The Finance Committee, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

and Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

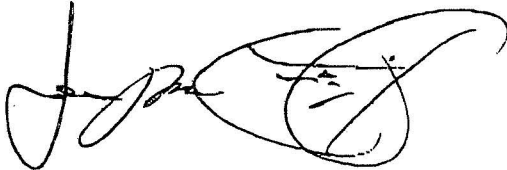
From: John Morgan Felix, Honolulu, Hawaii

Re: Support for April 9, 2008 Hearing of HR62 HD1 and HCR 71 HD1, URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT.

I strongly support seat belts on school buses. What if the Kahuku Water Polo Team were seriously injured or killed? It makes no sense to have everyone buckle up in a car, train, or plane and not include the school bus. I urge the Legislature to help prevent injury to the children of Hawaii and help implement seat belts on school buses. It makes sense and it is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

John Felix



P.O. Box 240778
Hon. HI 96824

To: The House Finance Committee, Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair ; Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

From: Sabrina Clark, 2440 Campus Road #308, Honolulu, HI, 96822. Sabrina@SabrinaClark.com

Re: Hearing on April 9, 2008 for HR62 HD1 and HCR 71 HD1, URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT.

I am enclosing the results of an online petition that I created to support seat belts on school buses. Please note the petition includes the resolution name, number and hearing date.

143 signatures were collected of which 134 signatures are from Hawaii Residents. Of those 134 Hawaii Resident signatures, 119 had personalized comments regarding this issue.

Please consider the voice of these petitioners when considering HR62 HD1 and HCR 71 HD1 today.

Thank you,

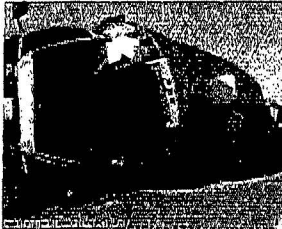
Sabrina Clark

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabrina Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



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Support Seat Belts On School Buses

Target: Hawaii

Sponsored by: Concerned Parents and Citizens of Hawaii

Our Keiki Need Seat Belts on School Buses

Honolulu, Hawaii, April 9, 2008-We are all thankful that the recent school bus roll-over crash of Kahuku's Water Polo Team left no one seriously injured or killed. This accident should be a wake-up call for Hawaii to put seat belts on school buses. So far this year, several children have already died in school bus crashes in the United States. Six states have already passed laws regarding this issue. Hawaii's legislators did not have the public support they needed to pass any of the several bills relating to seat belts on school buses this year. We need to show our legislators our support for House Resolution 62, which urges the Board of Education to put seat belts on school buses this Wednesday, April ninth, at 1:15 PM in Hawaii State Capitol Conference Room 308. If you cannot arrive in person please take the time to send a testimony letter to: Finetestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Attention to: Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

For: April 9, 2008 Finance Committee on HR62 HD1 and HCR 71 HD1, URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ONLY PURCHASE OR LEASE LARGE SCHOOL BUSES THAT HAVE AN OPERABLE SEAT BELT ASSEMBLY AT ALL DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS AND SEAT BACKS THAT ARE AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT.

We should also ask our legislators to pass a bill next year that mandates seat belts on newly obtained school buses to give our keiki *added* protection when they ride the school bus. Seat belts for a new school bus costs just pennies a day over the life of the bus. Aren't our keiki worth this small investment? If you want to get on board and help, contact your legislator today or visit <http://www.keikisafebus.org/>

Despite increased federal standards for school bus passenger safety and crash protection, there are still thousands of injuries to children throughout the country each year due to school bus accidents. In February 2008 in Minnesota, a school bus accident caused the DEATH of 4 CHILDREN and the HOSPITALIZATION of 13 CHILDREN. (Click Here to watch the story) Children suffer both minor and serious injuries to their head, neck, back, and stomach when striking the roof, windows, seat backs, and other school bus passengers during crashes. (Click Here to Watch Video) Crash test and case study data indicate that seat belts provide improved crash protection and are especially beneficial in side-impact and rollover school bus accidents. Seat belts reduce other types of injuries by restraining children who may otherwise be out of their seats. (Click Here for Information*) This also helps improve passenger behavior and reduce distractions to school bus drivers. In addition, seat belts provide another important benefit, namely, educating children as to seat belt use and reinforcing seat belt use in motor vehicles. Please tell Hawaii's legislators that you want to help protect children by providing seat belts on school buses.

Go to <http://keikisafebus.org/> for more information.

*Safeguard is one brand of seat belts for school buses and is used as an example of what is available today

signature goal: 1,000

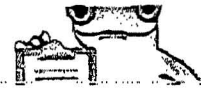
143 signatures!

sign petition!

Not Sabrina? log out



We signed the "Support Seat Belts On School Buses" petition!



- # 143: **Apr 9, 2008, Yvonne Abreu, Hawaii**
A child's life is PRICELESS!!!
- # 142: **Apr 6, 2008, Heather Hall, Hawaii**
We have laws that keep our children safe in car seats and laws to make sure everyone wears a seatbelt to keep them safe so why would we not make it mandatory to have seat belts on school buses. I wouldn't let my kids ride school buses just because there are no seat belts. What's the point of making all car passengers wear a seatbelt if we don't even make our children wear them on school buses.
- # 141: **Apr 6, 2008, Lorna K, Hawaii**
I don't understand why by law we need to wear seatbelts while in our vehicles but it is okay for you to ride the bus and not wear seatbelts. This make no sense. If its the law it should be done no matter what. Especially when there are children involved.

I have four children and I love them all. I would do anything and everything in my power to make sure that my children are safe. My children are my world!!!!!!
- # 140: **Apr 6, 2008, Kimberley Limasa, Hawaii**
All children should be required to wear seat belts in buses as they are required to do in standard automobiles. The issue is a no-brainer! Seat belts save lives!
- # 139: **Apr 6, 2008, VELTTA MONDEREN, Hawaii**
HAVING SEAT BELTS IN ANY VEHICLE JUST MAKES SENSE PERIOD. BUSES ARE MORE DANGEROUS THEN CARS!! THE RIDE IS ALDY ROUGHER ON THE PASSENGERS & IT IS OFTEN DRIVEN BY AN IRRATE OR UNDERQUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL WHO IS JUST DOING THEIR JOB- SO IT IS CRAZY THAT THERE ISNT ANY SAFETY HARNESSSES TO PROTECT THE RIDERS. IT MAKES NO SENSE AT ALL THAT THE LAW REQUIRES 2-4 PASSENGER VEHICLES TO HAVE & USE SAFETY BELTS AT ALL TIMES, BUT IN A BUS WHERE THE RISKS ARE A LOT HIGHER, SEAT BELTS ARENT EVEN OFFERED.

CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE AND ARE WORTH MORE THAN ALL THE RICHES IN THE WORLD. A GOVERNMENT THAT DOESNT PROTECT THEM AS OUR INVESTMENTS TO OUR FUTURE IS A FAILURE.
- # 138: **Apr 6, 2008, MaryAnn Tilton, Hawaii**
I have Grandchildren and feel its necessary to have seatbelts on ALL buses for children and other passengers. A child must have a restraint in a car,,,what is the difference between a car and a bus. Please consider this plea. Thank you.
- # 137: **Apr 1, 2008, Ruelene Shinchi, Hawaii**
I was truly horrified when I watched the video. The children were thrown around like rag dolls. I had no idea how unsafe the children were when riding the bus. In Hawaii almost everyone wears their seat belt because we are required to. Why is it that buses that carry our precious children are not required to have seat belts.
- # 136: **Mar 28, 2008, JoAnna B., California**
States require seat belts in cars and trucks; why are we not enforcing protection for our children in school buses? This is a major need! make our children's safety a top priority.

Life!Future!They are Gods children
- # 135: **Mar 27, 2008, Prima Baily, New York**
- # 134: **Mar 26, 2008, Lisa Palm, Hawaii**
Please keep our children safe!!!
- # 133: **Mar 26, 2008, Kelly Allen, Hawaii**
- # 132: **Mar 26, 2008, Richard Hollister, Arizona**
- # 131: **Mar 25, 2008, Mike Downs, Missouri**
buses should have seat belts,they are unsafe without them and our children are the future

my child is worth more than anything in the world
- # 130: **Mar 24, 2008, Jessica Moore, Hawaii**
Please please do this it is very important for the safety of our Kids!

My kids are my world!
- # 129: **Mar 24, 2008, Dawn Lee, Hawaii**
I am for this and I approve this message.....
- # 128: **Mar 23, 2008, William Wong, Hawaii**
This is a long time coming, seatbelts are mandatory for passenger vehicles, why not for school buses? They travel as fast and are not as maneuverable nor have other safety features such as airbags...
- # 127: **Mar 23, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii**
- # 126: **Mar 23, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii**
Its a required by law for children to wear seat belts, so why not on a school bus? Please put seat belts on the school buses
Thank you!!!
- # 125: **Mar 23, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii**
When my son goes on a field trip I hope and pray that nothing will happen in the school bus because not being buckled-up is so dangerous and scary. Please put seat belts in the school buses for our childrens safety.
- # 124: **Mar 23, 2008, Elizabeth Wong, Hawaii**
Do you know how bumpy school buses are? I have chaperoned numerous school activities for the preschool/kindergarten age group and have seen too many kids sway, bounce, and get "bun-boos" from even normal school bus operation. Please retrofit ALL school buses with seat belts! While you're at it, please remember to select a design that will properly protect the smallest/youngest passengers. Normal seat belts will not protect small children who still require car seats and booster seats.

Care2 : The Petition Site : Support Seat Belts O

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When riding in automobiles.

- # 123: **Mar 22, 2008, Kehaulani Dainstrico , Hawaii** Delete
Thank you for making our children's safety a top priority.
- # 122: **Mar 21, 2008, Charles Ota , Hawaii** Delete
Please pass this bill to require seat belts in school buses. There is no need to wait for a tragic accident first. I have been told by several quality preschool administrators that they do not order buses with seatbelts because of cost issues. However, if the seatbelts were mandatory, I should think the bus companies could amortize the cost, and we would be ensuring our kids' safety. Please pass this. Thank you.
- # 121: **Mar 20, 2008, Lellani Bonds , Hawaii** Delete
Every state should enforce that seat belts be installed in school buses. It is required by law that we buckle up in our cars.
- # 120: **Mar 20, 2008, Suzanne Maurer , Hawaii** Delete
- # 119: **Mar 20, 2008, Kimberly Howley , Hawaii** Delete
- # 118: **Mar 20, 2008, Jennifer Spengler , Hawaii** Delete
- # 117: **Mar 19, 2008, Jarle Wong , Hawaii** Delete
This Bill will prevent serious injuries and unnecessary death of school children by complying with safety regulations suggested by The National Coalition for School Bus safety. The following organizations are supporters of installing seat belts on school buses: American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, American College of Emergency Physicians, American Medical Association, Clarktown Parent Teacher Association, National Parent Teacher Association, People Advocating Seat Belt Safety, Physicians for Automotive Safety and Society for Adolescent Medicine. The following states and country support this issue: Florida, Louisiana, California, New Jersey, New York and Great Britain. Four children died in Minnesota on a school bus last month due to negligence. I urge you to pass this bill and prevent such tragedies in the State of Hawaii.
- # 116: **Mar 19, 2008, Beverly Binney , Hawaii** Delete
I am appalled that school buses do not have seat belts. How can we have laws about seat belts and not include buses?
- # 115: **Mar 19, 2008, Tana Hilliard , Hawaii** Delete
I am a mother and a teacher. It has been bewildering to me that there have been no seat belt laws for school buses. I guess that it has been considered just too expensive to protect the children of America while they are on their way to school. It's another example of how off course some of our leaders get once they are elected. Tana Hilliard
- # 114: **Mar 18, 2008, Patti Johnson , Hawaii** Delete
- # 113: **Mar 17, 2008, Anonymous , Hawaii** Delete
It is criminal that school buses do not have seatbelts. Every time my child has to get on one of those 'death traps' I cringe in fear and pray for his safe return. I never understood why is wasn't the law that the buses have them. I really hope it isn't a matter of money. That would be shameful. Please support the laws to make seatbelts on school buses mandatory. I'm sure every parent agrees that our children are the most important thing to us - let's please keep them safe.
- # 112: **Mar 17, 2008, Tiffany Schorer , Illinois** Delete
It's the law to wear a seat belt. So why aren't there seat belts on school buses? Tell me why it's okay to not wear a seat belt on a school bus but in a car it's the law? Doesn't make any sense to me.

I know as long as there aren't seat belts on school buses I will not allow my child to ride one. And I believe that the bus drivers, school personnel, and the makers of the buses should be charged with endangerment. And the parents should have the right to file any charges possible.
- # 111: **Mar 17, 2008, Luka Kusumoto , Hawaii** Delete
I worry about the high costs of potential lawsuits related to personal injuries/deaths related to bus accidents. The government must understand that the protection of our children is a worthy investment in our future.
- # 110: **Mar 17, 2008, Lorey Pfeiffer , Hawaii** Delete
I as a mother of a 4 year old who took his first field trip in a school bus. this year I was shocked to learn that they did not have seatbelts! I have my son in a 5 point harness carseat in my car and he has NOTHING in his school bus. Does this seem right to you?
- # 109: **Mar 17, 2008, Brooke Loughridge , Hawaii** Delete
- # 108: **Mar 16, 2008, Jenny Breed , Hawaii** Delete
Please consider this a priority. protecting our future generation, bus safety is critical
- # 107: **Mar 16, 2008, TAYLOR WEIDNER , Colorado** Delete
- # 106: **Mar 16, 2008, Lillian Romann , Hawaii** Delete
Please support this bill. Our children are precious to us and we need to keep them safe in all situations. Our children go on 3-5 excursions a year and each time I pray nothing happens while they are in transport. Please don't wait for an accident to occur, please pass this bill!
- # 105: **Mar 16, 2008, Wallace Wang , Hawaii** Delete
- # 104: **Mar 16, 2008, Keala McKenzie , Hawaii** Delete
I can't believe that we even have to petition for this- it should have been in place years ago. I'm fearful every time my daughter goes on a field trip. Lets take care of this sooner than later.
- # 103: **Mar 16, 2008, Nalu Kukea , Hawaii** Delete
Seems like a no-brainer! I'm sure the bus driver has to wear a seat belt, why not all the kids also.
- # 102: **Mar 15, 2008, Kelsey Turk , Texas** Delete
"Only through our efforts, can we truly make a difference." Kelsey Turk [www.myspace.com/kelseyturk]
- # 101: **Mar 15, 2008, Donald Lee , Hawaii** Delete

to me this is a no brainer. Do something worthwhile for a change.

You can NOT put a value on a child's life.

We signed the "Support Seat Belts On School Buses" petition!



- # 100: **Mar 15, 2008, Claudia Lee, Hawaii**
It's amazing that it is not a requirement. Children under 70 lbs. have to be in booster seats in a car so why would they be safe without even a seatbelt on a bus??? That really makes me angry! I won't allow my 5 year-old daughter on a school bus even if that means we are limited in our selection of schools.

My children's lives are priceless.
- # 99: **Mar 15, 2008, Ikaika Aki, Hawaii**
- # 98: **Mar 15, 2008, Jinny Aki, Hawaii**
Being a public school teacher and traveling on school buses, I feel very strongly that seat belts be installed on school buses. Seat belts are the law in vehicles and should be in school buses to provide and teach safety to our children. Being a mother myself, I always make sure my child is buckled up. This is important to protect our children of Hawaii.
- # 97: **Mar 15, 2008, Anonymous, New York**
- # 96: **Mar 14, 2008, Fredrick Cassidy, Hawaii**
Seat belts save lives. It is the law in the USA that all children and adults buckle up in all other road motor vehicles. It is a no-brainer that seat belts should be mandatory on all school buses and be designed to fit small children. All buses in London--i.e. public, school, double decker, private, tour, etc. are required to have seat belts and the driver is responsible for enforcing that all passengers buckle up or the driver cannot drive the bus. The passenger refusing to buckle up will be evicted from the bus and can be levied a significant fine. The bus cannot move until all passengers buckled up their seat belt.
- # 95: **Mar 14, 2008, Cathy Sussman, Hawaii**
Please help keep our keiki safe by having seat belts installed on school buses!
- # 94: **Mar 14, 2008, Stephanie Roberts, Hawaii**
- # 93: **Mar 14, 2008, Svatlana Jovic-Binchetti, Hawaii**
We have a law that requires kids in cars to be in car-seats, with boosters, seat belts. In all the commercial vehicles (buses, vans...) passengers under 18 need to wear seat belts. But there aren't any in school buses, where they only transport children, very young ones too? We need to remember that the school buses are not the only ones in traffic and even the slightest but sudden braking can send little ones flying through the bus. I wholeheartedly support this law.
- # 92: **Mar 14, 2008, Johnalyn Nakamura, Hawaii**
After viewing crash tests on the effects of seat belts, I cannot believe lawmakers have not made it a law to equip school buses with seat belts. It only takes one accident and within one second a child's life could be taken. Our children put their faith in us that we will protect them. If we don't take measures to try to change the law we will be failing as parents and if the lawmakers don't make the change, they will be failing as civil servants.
- # 91: **Mar 14, 2008, Sara Nieling, Hawaii**
Seatbelts are mandated in automobiles for both adults and children. It seems odd that that they are not mandated on vehicles that are driven on a daily basis and carry almost exclusively children. The safety of our children is extremely important and I believe that seatbelts on schoolbuses is a good step towards better ensuring our children's safety.
- # 90: **Mar 14, 2008, Valeria Markland, Hawaii**
Please keep our children safe - Hawaii needs them!
- # 89: **Mar 13, 2008, Lisa Hyde, Hawaii**
- # 88: **Mar 13, 2008, Davis Hanal, Hawaii**
I don't have children, but I still believe this is a wonderful bill. I hope buses do have seatbelts by the time my future children are school aged!
- # 87: **Mar 13, 2008, Jill Meghan Natividad, Hawaii**
I can't believe it's taken this long to get seat belts on buses. These are our children's lives we are talking about & their safety. Aloha, Jill Natividad
- # 86: **Mar 13, 2008, Susan Marshall, Hawaii**
- # 85: **Mar 13, 2008, Shawna Holess, Hawaii**
If the law requires our keiki to use seatbelts/boosters in personal motor vehicles, then it only makes sense to have such safety devices available in school buses. Let's do what we can to help protect our keiki.
- # 84: **Mar 13, 2008, Murray and Shari Grounds, Hawaii**
Please pass this bill in order to keep our little ones safe!!! Any injury is one too many!!!
- # 83: **Mar 13, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii**
Please pass this bill. Mahalo!

Better to be safe than sorry.
- # 82: **Mar 13, 2008, John Kilpatrick, Nevada**
No matter how good the bus driver may be, accidents happen. Seat belts have been proven time and again to be effective against injury and death.
- # 81: **Mar 13, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii**
- # 80: **Mar 13, 2008, Worrann Hamocou, Hawaii**
Please protect our keiki while they are on the bus!

Accidents happen, put seat belts on the school buses.
- # 79: **Mar 13, 2008, Heather Shank, Hawaii**
we must use boosters and carseats, but if the kids are on the bus - NOTHING?? This is so important to the safety of our children.

- # 78: **Mar 13, 2008, David Buck, Hawaii** Delete
Why not use money made from ticketing adult drivers not wearing their seat belts to pay for the school buses to be equipped with belts?
- # 77: **Mar 13, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** Delete
I am an elementary school teacher and have a daughter of my own who will be starting kindergarten next year. I am concerned about her safety during field trips since I know that buses are always taken to get the children to their destination. There are many careless drivers these days out on the road trying to "multitask." They may be eating, drinking, talking on cell phones, text messaging, smoking or doing who knows what. The bottom line is they're not paying attention to the road and that can lead to accidents. Please help ensure the safety of Hawaii's kids by requiring them to wear safety belts on buses. They wear them in all other vehicles, why not buses?
- # 76: **Mar 13, 2008, Kathi Meccian, Hawaii** Delete
Please help us to protect our children and families!

How much is your child worth?
- # 75: **Mar 13, 2008, Holly-Anu Marchant, Hawaii** Delete
I would definitely pay more for my child's bus fare to incorporate this safety measure. Unfortunately even if there are sufficient funds to install these seat belts the government needs to make it a mandatory requirement. Please pass this law for the life of my 10-year old son and for all children!
- # 74: **Mar 12, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** Delete
Our children are not only our country's future, but the most important beings in our lives, so please do whatever it takes to protect them from harm...PLEASE INSTALL SEATBELTS IN BUSES!!!
- # 73: **Mar 12, 2008, Robin Polhemus, Hawaii** Delete
Even as a child I wondered why there were no seat belts in buses. I felt that maybe we, as children, didn't matter enough to be protected. Why did cars have seat belts for their riders and buses did not? Buses are bigger, less stable than cars and have more room for a body to bounce around in and become injured. Seat belts in school buses are a great idea and a long time coming.
- # 72: **Mar 12, 2008, Tiffany Edwards Hunt, Hawaii** Delete
Please put seat belts on school buses!
- # 71: **Mar 12, 2008, Meghan Buck, Hawaii** Delete
If adult drivers are ticketed for not wearing seat belts, it is absurd that the law does not demand the protection of children as passengers on school buses with seat belts. Isn't the driver provided with a belt and expected to wear it?
- # 70: **Mar 12, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** Delete
We make it law for children to ride in car seats, booster seats and for all people to ride with seat belts. Why on earth do we allow our children to be in a position to get hurt by not wearing a seatbelt on a bus?!! We must implement this seat belt law for all buses!!
- # 69: **Mar 12, 2008, Dianne Sanchez, Hawaii** Delete
- # 68: **Mar 12, 2008, Gina Mahal, Hawaii** Delete
As the mother of two and an elementary school teacher I cannot express the importance of safety for our kids! I would be a willing parent to pay extra for the cost of a field trip, knowing the bus came equipped with seat belts. There has got to be some way to fund seat belts on school buses! I can't think of anything more important to our students than their safety and well-being!
- # 67: **Mar 12, 2008, Chenoa Morris, Hawaii** Delete
Hawaii has comprehensive seat belt, car seat and booster seat laws for adults, infants and toddlers while travelling in cars and trucks. Why wouldn't children also be required to wear a seat belt while travelling in a bus?
- # 66: **Mar 12, 2008, Karen Seth, Hawaii** Delete
I have two beautiful daughters in public school, and their lives are priceless as is each child's life. If we can save at least one child's life by adding seat belts to school buses, then it would be worth it. I work in a trauma center that sees one too many child for injuries as a result of not wearing seat belts. Please pass this important legislation.
- # 65: **Mar 12, 2008, Karen Corpuz, Hawaii** Delete
My two children are grown and in college. But having accompanied them on many excursions during their elementary school years, I know how important bus safety is. When kids are a mere forty pounds, the slightest bump on the road can send them flying. I realize that equipping buses with seat belts will be costly, but the welfare of children is surely a more important issue? Even if this requires raising excursion costs for parents, I support adding seat belts on buses. Your serious and thoughtful consideration is much appreciated by this parent.
- # 64: **Mar 12, 2008, Jonathan Steiner, Hawaii** Delete
I want my kid kept safe. There is no reason not to require seatbelts, the cost would be well worth it.
- # 63: **Mar 12, 2008, Sabino Manzulli, Hawaii** Delete
- # 62: **Mar 12, 2008, Jennifer Binney, Hawaii** Delete
- # 61: **Mar 12, 2008, Jenn Kurzeja, Hawaii** Delete
This has been a worry of mine for over 9 years when our oldest began school. In the beginning I avoided allowing my son to attend field trips because of the lack of safety on buses! Now that I have two children in school I am even more concerned for their safety as well as others! It's not right, and there needs to be a change! We always wear a seatbelt in the car and a bus should be no different!
- # 60: **Mar 12, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** Delete
I can only add to what everyone else has said - the law is so adamant about seatbelts in cars that it's insane to not include them in school buses; it's such a double standard.
- # 59: **Mar 12, 2008, LAURA CASRY, Hawaii** Delete
Please please pass this bill. Does it make any sense at all that HPD will pull over and ticket a driver not wearing a seat belt in Hawaii, yet our precious kids are riding daily in vehicles without the same protection??? Consider the consequences!
- # 58: **Mar 12, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** Delete
I would like my children to participate in school field trips and knowing that they would be strapped in while traveling to and from the location is extremely important to us. Please pass this bill!

- # 57: **Mar 12, 2008, Cathy Cheng, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
I want my child and all children to be safe when transported in school buses for school events. We have an excellent car seat and seat belt law that covers our children well. It doesn't make sense to put them in a bus without the same safety considerations.
- # 56: **Mar 11, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
- # 55: **Mar 11, 2008, Chrissin Shimabukuro, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Please keep our children safe while riding on school buses. by passing this bill. Mahalo!
- # 54: **Mar 11, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Safer school buses in Hawaii would be wonderful.
- # 53: **Mar 11, 2008, R.M. Vergara, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
If we and our children are legally required to wear seat belts in our cars, shouldn't they also be legally required to wear seat belts in school buses? School buses are motor vehicles; they can still get into an accident. We teach our children to buckle up in our cars, why not a school bus?

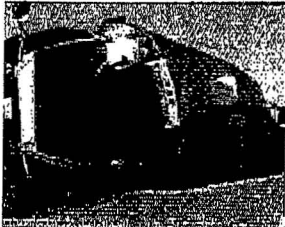
Why aren't children being protected in school buses? Aren't they important enough?
- # 52: **Mar 11, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
I have always wondered why this was never brought up before...riding as we give adults no option to wear/not wear a seatbelt for their own safety...why wouldn't we do the same to keep our kids safe?!
- # 51: **Mar 11, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Imagine the impact this could have. Please be proactive. My child is my life. Please help to protect her and all our youngsters in our state.

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Support Seat Belts On School Buses

signature
goal: 1,000

Target: Hawaii

Sponsored by: [Concerned Parents and Citizens of Hawaii](#)

Our Keiki Need Seat Belts on School Buses

Honolulu, Hawaii, April 9, 2008-We are all thankful that the recent school bus roll-over crash of Kahuku's Water Polo Team left no one seriously injured or killed. This accident should be a wake-up call for Hawaii to put seat belts on school buses. So far this year, several children have already died in school bus crashes in the United States. Six states have already passed laws regarding this issue. Hawaii's legislators did not have the public support they needed to pass any of the several bills relating to seat belts on school buses this year. We need to show our legislators our support for House Resolution



143
signature(s)

sign petition!

Not Sabrina? [log out](#)

Thank you! You signed at 12:08 PM PDT, Mar 24, 2008
You can do more! [Show me more petitions »](#)

We signed the "Support Seat Belts On School Buses" petition!



- # 50: **Mar 11, 2008, James McCarter, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Dating back to when I was in Middle School and the seat belt law came into affect for automobiles I often thought this type law was a given. I have never been able to figure out why our most cherish commodity our youth are not protected while traveling to and from school and school related events. This is simply way over due. I'm an Athletic Director at a High School here in Hawaii and this proposal has my utmost support.

There simply is no price tag on life. If it saves one child's life it is worth every penny.
- # 49: **Mar 11, 2008, Sandy Traukada, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
This issue has always bothered me. Please help keep our children safe and mandate seatbelts in all school buses. My son fell asleep on the school bus once returning from an excursion and fell out of his seat into the aisle. Thank goodness he didn't hit his head. Had he been strapped in with a seatbelt, this would not have happened.

Priceless!
- # 48: **Mar 11, 2008, Peter Moore and Sonya Zabala, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
This is a great idea. We pride ourselves in Hawaii as being a family oriented society, more so than other places; Ohana! So, here is a great measure calling for us to put very little money and definite action toward the safety of all our children. This should be considered a minimal standard.
- # 47: **Mar 11, 2008, Shannon Sultan, Wisconsin** [Delete](#)
I've ridden on these things as I was growing up. I also have family friends who did. One of them has a daughter who was involved in a bus accident. Her leg was mangled and the company tried to blow them off. Her parents sued and they ended up getting \$1 million. Now unless these bus companies want to pay out that much for every injured child, they had better install seatbelts.

My own life.
- # 46: **Mar 11, 2008, Konnie Newbro, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
- # 45: **Mar 11, 2008, Alyson Hodges, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
You wouldn't put your child in a car without a seat belt...what's the difference??!!??

my children are worth the master card ad... "priceless"!
- # 44: **Mar 11, 2008, Lori Kodama, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
I'm so glad that this issue is getting some attention. I can't believe that seatbelts are not required in school buses. We have "click it or ticket" for our own personal vehicles, but what about the buses that carry our most precious children everyday? I've ridden in school buses many times with my children and think that it is very dangerous. The children, because they're so light tend to "bounce around" on those seats under normal driving conditions. I can't imagine how they might be "tossed" around in the event of an accident. It could be disastrous. Please do the right thing and protect our children.
- # 43: **Mar 11, 2008, Sandra Allen, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Really, what makes a bus more safe than a SUV? Seat belts should be mandatory for children in any vehicle. If it is because

of cost, that is deplorable to put a price on a child's life.

- # 42: **Mar 11, 2008, Charla Ota, Hawaii**
Several quality child care organizations & preschools have told me that they would like to use buses with seatbelts, but the cost differential is a deterrent. Therefore I strongly support requiring seatbelts on keiki buses, since otherwise economic factors will prevent their use. Even at a greater cost, safety of our keiki is priceless. And if the bus companies are able to invest in corrective measures as part of regular maintenance, it should not increase prices dramatically.
- # 41: **Mar 11, 2008, Eloni Pflueger, Hawaii**
Having two young boys in school, this has been a concern of mine for quite sometime. I know many parents that are nervous about allowing their children to attend excursions for this reason alone.
- # 40: **Mar 11, 2008, Lyn Soma, Hawaii**
Seat belts are a must to keep our Keiki safe!!!! Let us all join in to make this very important (issue happen!!!)
- # 39: **Mar 11, 2008, Kathleen Chu, Hawaii**
Keep our keiki safe. Seatbelts are required everywhere else.
- # 38: **Mar 11, 2008, Damaris Clark, Hawaii**
If children are required to wear seatbelts in cars they should be required to wear seatbelts on school buses. I have a young daughter that will be starting pre-school soon and would prefer her traveling for school outings in a safe seatbelt on the school bus. Our children need to be safe on these school buses.
- # 37: **Mar 11, 2008, Catherine Smalley, United Kingdom**
- # 36: **Mar 11, 2008, Kyle Itagimoto, Hawaii**
I have always wondered why children are required to wear seatbelts in cars, yet are not required to wear seatbelts in school buses. Are children less likely to receive an injury if an accident occurred while riding in a school bus than they are in a car? I don't think so. The state should have made seatbelts in school buses mandatory a long, long time ago... It is ABSOLUTELY a no brainer! I have three children of my own, and want to know that they will be riding in the safest possible manner while on field trips and school functions. Enough said..... Do something about it now. Why wait until something drastic happens?
- # 35: **Mar 11, 2008, Chandra Peters, Hawaii**
Seat belts should be standard in every vehicle on the road. No exceptions. No excuses. Buckle up our keiki wherever they ride.
- # 34: **Mar 11, 2008, Douglas Rigg, Hawaii**
Please make this a priority when passing legislation in the upcoming session. The safety of our children is in your hands. Mahalo, Doug Rigg
- # 33: **Mar 11, 2008, Janet McElheny, Hawaii**
It is time to make our buses safer for our children by adding seat belts. Please pass this bill. Money should not be a factor. Safety first!!
- # 32: **Mar 10, 2008, Skave Klein, Canada**
- # 31: **Mar 10, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii**
What are you waiting for? This is a necessity, not a luxury!
- # 30: **Mar 10, 2008, Kate Condos, Hawaii**
I would hope that everyone would see seat belt safety laws as being a small price to pay for the minimal protection we expect for our children in any vehicle.
- # 29: **Mar 10, 2008, Jio Leung, Hawaii**
Please keep our precious keikis safe by adding the seat belt requirement on the school bus.
- # 28: **Mar 10, 2008, Sonia Driscoll, Hawaii**
It sure doesn't make a lot of sense that the law requires rear facing car seats for infants under 1, front facing car seats for 1-4 year olds and boosters for 4-8 year olds. Not to mention standard seat belts from there on out. Yet, on their first field trip at school (or preschool) they are plopped on a slippery vinyl bench seat next to another little friend and deemed secure and safe. Give me a break and buckle up my squirmy worm.
- # 27: **Mar 10, 2008, Dolan Eversole, Hawaii**
Why would we require adults wear seatbelt but not children? This is a no brainer, please pass this bill.
- # 26: **Mar 10, 2008, Christina Lockie, Hawaii**
- # 25: **Mar 10, 2008, Jennifer Schoop, Hawaii**
We have a seatbelt law for everyone else, why not keep our children safe as well? We cannot trust that the drivers on the road will obey the laws to keep children safe. We need to take the extra step to ensure their safety ourselves.

The world
- # 24: **Mar 10, 2008, Christopher Cole, Hawaii**
Our children's safety is worth the cost. Please pass this bill.
- # 23: **Mar 10, 2008, Tammy Yamada, Hawaii**
- # 22: **Mar 10, 2008, Signe Lohmann, Hawaii**
All school buses should be equipped with seat belts. The children's safety is of the utmost importance, no matter the cost.
- # 21: **Mar 10, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii**
Please require seat belts in all school buses. This is a no-brainer and should have been done a long time ago.

Our children are priceless.
- # 20: **Mar 10, 2008, Gary Greive, Hawaii**
- # 19: **Mar 10, 2008, Eliza Hand, Hawaii**
This law makes complete sense. Why not require seatbelts in buses for children? The cost of injury or death proves to be higher than the cost of seatbelts.

- # 18: **Mar 10, 2008, Isla Godfrey-Byrne, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Please support our children.
- # 17: **Mar 10, 2008, Marni Ellgren, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
- # 16: **Mar 10, 2008, Patricia FIELD, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
- # 15: **Mar 10, 2008, Kris Shimabukuro, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
- # 14: **Mar 10, 2008, Joan Meister, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Seatbelts have been shown to save lives - especially in our youngest population. To not have seatbelts in school buses makes no sense and needlessly puts children at risk. There is no good reason to not mandate seatbelts for school buses.
- # 13: **Mar 10, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
- # 12: **Mar 10, 2008, Laura Segii, California** [Delete](#)
I fully support this!!!!
- # 11: **Mar 10, 2008, Glenda Kawahara, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
I am signing this petition in support of a mandatory seatbelt law for our school buses as a protection for our children, their future and ours as well. An ounce of protection is worth a pound of cure and our children are worth every penny that we need to invest.
- # 10: **Mar 10, 2008, Gerilyn Camarillo, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Aloha! Please help to protect our school children by implementing this necessary law!!! Mahalo, Gerilyn
- # 9: **Mar 10, 2008, Matt Lyum, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Seat belts and car seats are required in passenger vehicles for kids. Buses obviously get into accidents too. Please don't wait until its too late to avoid tragedy.
- # 8: **Mar 10, 2008, Howard McGinnis, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
I'm required to wear a seatbelt in my car. Why not school buses? Unlike commercial buses that have more substantial seats, school buses seats provide no protection against movement.
- # 7: **Mar 10, 2008, AnnMarie Manzulli, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
With such strict laws regarding car seats for infants, and the "Click It or Ticket" campaign, it's surprising that "Support Seat Belts On School Buses" is not already a standard practice. What are we waiting for?
- # 6: **Mar 10, 2008, Florence Chong, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
- # 5: **Mar 10, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
It makes absolutely no sense to allow school buses to operate without seatbelts; I have attended field trips with my own kids and seen just how dangerous this situation is.
- # 4: **Mar 7, 2008, Anonymous, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Hawaii should join California, Florida, Louisiana, New Jersey, New York, and Texas in requiring kids to use seat belts on school buses. Let's be proactive and ensure the safety of this generation, and the next.
- # 3: **Mar 7, 2008, Ian Damon, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
The SafeGuard seats would seem to be the answer to every issue raised about the pitfalls of seatbelts in school buses. They allow 3 wide seating, they're not expensive, they have a very tall seatback for great compartmentalization protection, they have dual seatbacks for protection of seatbelled and compartmentalized (non-seatbelled) passengers, I hear there's also possible Fed funding for this kind of thing. Even so, if it is going to cost 1 or 2 million to outfit all school buses in the entire State of Hawaii then I'm sure that the monies could be raised with higher speeding and reckless driving fines... Let the people that ARE the danger, pay for our kids' protection. Hawaii has been lucky about bus accidents so far. What legislator is going to want to vote this down and have the blood of the first fatalities on his hands and voting record... Aloha & mahalo, Ian M. Damon

If I had to pay for the whole bus to get seatbelts so my keiki could have them, I would.
- # 2: **Feb 28, 2008, Daniel Rhee, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Hawaii has been VERY lucky without a death on a school bus accident, but the day will come, if this bill is turned down and there is a death in a school bus accident, you will literally have nightmares that you did not do the right thing for kids on school buses. mahalo
- # 1: **Feb 27, 2008, Sabrina Clark, Hawaii** [Delete](#)
Hawaii has had a school bus accident in Kaimuki. Why should lawmakers wait until children die in a school bus accident before they pass legislation for seat belts on school buses as in Texas? I support seat belts on school buses as they will not reduce ridership capacity and the cost is dollars per child over the life of the bus. How much is your child worth?

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Hawaii

Lets put seat belts on school buses before a fatal school bus accident happens in Hawaii. A school bus accident in Kaimuki injured several children and lawmakers have yet to stand up for seat belts on school buses. There are several initiatives in the Hawaii Legislature this year relating to seat belts on school buses. Please take the time to let lawmakers know you support these initiative.

	Name	From	Comments
1.	Sabrina Clark	Honolulu, HI	Hawaii has had a school bus accident in Kaimuki. Why should lawmakers wait until children die in a school bus accident before they pass legislation for seat belts on school buses as in Texas? I support seat belts on school buses as they will not reduce ridership capacity and the cost is dollars per child over the life of the bus. How much is your child worth?
2.	daniel rhee	Honolulu, HI	Hawaii has been VERY lucky without a death on a school bus accident, but the day will come. if this bill is turned down and there is a death in a school bus accident, you will literally have nightmares that you did not do the right thing for kids on school buses. mahalo
3.	Ian Damon	Honolulu, HI	The SafeGuard seats would seem to be the answer to every issue raised about the pitfalls of seatbelts in school buses. They allow 3 wide seating, they're not expensive, they have a very tall seatback for great compartmentalization protection, they have dual seatbacks for protection of seatbelted and compartmentalized (non-seatbelted) passengers. I hear there's also possible Fed funding for this kind of thing. Even so, if it is going to cost 1 or 2 million to outfit all school buses in the entire State of Hawaii then I'm sure that the monies could be raised with higher speeding and reckless driving fines... Let the people that ARE the danger, pay for our keiki's protection. Hawaii has been lucky about bus accidents so far. What legislator is going to want to vote this down and have the blood of the first fatalities on his hands and voting record... Aloha & mahalo, Ian M. Damon If I had to pay for the whole bus to get seatbelts so my keiki could have them, I would.

	Name	From	Comments
4.	Deja Ostrowski	Honolulu, HI	Hawaii should join California, Florida, Louisiana, New Jersey, New York, and Texas in requiring kids to use seat belts on school buses. Lets be proactive and ensure the safety of this generation, and the next.
5.	Geoff Graf	Honolulu, HI	It makes absolutely no sense to allow school buses to operate without seatbelts; I have attended field trips with my own kids and seen just how dangerous this situation is.
6.	Florence Chong	honolulu, HI	
7.	AnnMarie Manzulli	Kailua, HI	With such strict laws regarding car seats for infants, and the "Click it or Ticket" campaign, it's surprising that "Support Seat Belts On School Buses" is not already a standard practice. What are we waiting for?
8.	Howard McGinnis	Kaneohe, HI	I'm required to wear a seatbelt in my car. Why not school buses? Unlike commercial buses that have more substantial seats, school buses seats provide no protection against movement.
9.	Matt Lyum	Honolulu, HI	Seat belts and car seats are required in passenger vehicles for kids. Buses obviously get into accidents too. Please don't wait until its too late to avoid tragedy.
10.	Geralyn Camarillo	Kaneohe, HI	Aloha! Please help to protect our school children by implementing this necessary law!!! Mahalo, Geralyn
11.	Glenda Kawaiaaea	Waianae, HI	I am signing this petition in support of a mandatory seatbelt law for our school buses as a protection for our children, their future and ours as well. An ounce of protection is worth a pound of cure and our children are worth every penny that we need to invest.
12.	Laura Segil	Glendale, CA	I fully support this!!!!
13.	Roger Lyons	Honolulu, HI	
14.	Joan Meister	kailua, HI	Seatbelts have been shown to save lives--especially in our youngest population. To not have seatbelts in school buses makes no sense and needlessly puts children at risk. There is no good reason to not mandate seatblets for school buses.
15.	Kris Shimabukuro	Naalehu, HI	
16.	patricia fIELD	honolulu, HI	
17.	Marni Ellgren	Honolulu, HI	
18.	Isis Godfrey-Byrne	Honolulu, HI	Please support our children.
19.	Eliza Hand	Honolulu, HI	This law makes complete sense. Why not require seatbelts in buses for children? The cost of injury or death proves to higher than the cost of seatbelts.
20.	Gary Greive	Kula, HI	

	Name	From	Comments
21.	Kristen Kenney	honolulu, HI	Please require seat belts in all school buses. This is a no-brainer and should have been done a long time ago. Our children are priceless.
22.	Signe Lohmann	Honolulu, HI	All school buses should be equipped with seat belts. The children's safety is of the utmost importance, no matter the cost.
23.	Tammy Yamada	Pearl City, HI	
24.	Christopher Cole	Honolulu, HI	Our children's safety is worth the cost. Please pass this bill.
25.	Jennifer Schoap	Honolulu, HI	We have a seatbelt law for everyone else, why not keep our children safe as well? We cannot trust that the drivers on the road will obey the laws to keep children safe. We need to take the extra step to ensure their safety ourselves. The world
26.	Christine Leckie	honolulu, HI	
27.	Dolan Eversole	honolulu, HI	Why would we require adults wear seatbelt but not children? This is a no brainer, please pass this bill.
28.	Sonia Driscoll	Honolulu, HI	It sure doesn't make a lot of sense that the law requires rear facing car seats for infants under 1, front facing car seats for 1-4 year olds and boosters for 4-8 year olds. Not to mention standard seat belts from there on out. Yet, on their first field trip at school (or preschool) they are plopped on a slippery vinyl bench seat next to another little friend and deemed secure and safe. Give me a break and buckle up my squirmy worm.
29.	Juo Leung	Honolulu, HI	Please keep our precious keikis safe by adding the seat belt requirement on the school bus.
30.	Kate Condos	Honolulu, HI	I would hope that everyone would see seat belt safety laws as being a small price to pay for the minimal protection we expect for our children in any vehicle.
31.	Kitty Daniel	Honolulu, HI	What are you waiting for?! This is a necessity, not a luxury!
32.	Steve Klein	Montreal, Canada	
33.	janet McElheny	Honolulu, HI	It is time to make our buses safer for our children by adding seat belts. Please pass this bill. Money should not be a factor. Safety first!!
34.	Douglas Rigg	Honolulu, HI	Please make this a priority when passing legislation in the upcoming session. The safety of our children is in your hands. Mahalo, Doug Rigg
35.	Chandra Peters	Honolulu, HI	Seat belts should be standard in every vehicle on the road. No exceptions. No excuses. Buckle up our keiki wherever they ride.

	Name	From	Comments
36.	Kyle Kagimoto	Honolulu, HI	I have always wondered why children are required to wear seatbelts in cars, yet are not required to wear seatbelts in school buses. Are children less likely to receive an injury if an accident occurred while riding in a school bus than they are in a car? I don't think so. The state should have made seatbelts in school buses mandatory a long, long time ago....It is ABSOLUTELY a no brainer! I have three children of my own, and want to know that they will be riding in the safest possible manner while on field trips and school functions. Enough said.....Do something about it now. Why wait until something drastic happens?
37.	Catherine Smalley	Liverpool, United Kingdom	
38.	Damaris Clark	Mililani, HI	If children are required to wear seatbelts in cars they should be required to wear seatbelts on school buses. I have a young daughter that will be starting pre-school soon and would prefer her traveling for school outings in a safe seatbelt on the school bus. Our children need to be safe on these school buses.
39.	Kathleen Chu	Honolulu, HI	Keep our keiki safe. Seatbelts are required everywhere else.
40.	Lyn Soma	Haiku, HI	Seat belts are a must to keep our Keiki safe!!!! Let us all join in to make this very important issue happen!!!
41.	Eleni Pflueger	Honolulu, HI	Having two young boys in school, this has been a concern of mine for quite sometime. I know many parents that are nervous about allowing their children to attend excursions for this reason alone.
42.	Charla Ota	Kaneohe, HI	Several quality child care organizations & preschools have told me that they would like to use buses with seatbelts, but the cost differential is a deterrent. Therefore I strongly support requiring seatbelts on keiki buses, since otherwise economic factors will prevent their use. Even at a greater cost, safety of our keiki is priceless. And if the bus companies are able to invest in corrective measures as part of regular maintenance, it should not increase prices dramatically.
43.	Sondra Allen	Honolulu, HI	Really, what makes a bus more safe than a SUV? Seat belts should be mandatory for children in any vehicle. If it is because of cost, that is deplorable to put a price on a child's life.
44.	Lori Kodama	Honolulu, HI	I'm so glad that this issue is getting some attention. I can't believe that seatbelts are not required in school buses. We have "click it or ticket" for our own personal vehicles, but what about the buses that carry our most precious children everyday? I've ridden in school buses many times with my children and think that it is very dangerous. The children, because they're so light tend to "bounce around" on those (continues on next page)

	Name	From	Comments
44.	Lori Kodama	Honolulu, HI	<i>(continued from previous page)</i> seats under normal driving conditions. I can't imagine how they might be "tossed" around in the event of an accident. It could be disastrous. Please do the right thing and protect our children.
45.	Alyson Hodges	Haiku, HI	You wouldn't put your child in a car without a seat belt...what's the difference??!!?? my children are worth the master card ad..."priceless"!
46.	Konnie Newbro	Paia, HI	
47.	Shannon Sultan	Milwaukee, WI	I've ridden on these things as I was growing up. I also have family friends who did. One of them has a daughter who was involved in a bus accident. Her leg was mangled and the company tried to blow them off. Her parents sued and they ended up getting \$1 million. Now unless these bus companies want to pay out that much for every injured child, they had better install seatbelts. My own life.
48.	Peter Moore and Sonya Zabala	Honolulu, HI	This is a great idea. We pride ourselves in Hawaii as being a family oriented society, more so than other places; Ohana! So, here is a great measure calling for us to put very little money and definite action toward the safety of all our children. This should be considered a minimal standard.
49.	Sandy Tsukada	Honolulu, HI	This issue has always bothered me. Please help keep our children safe and mandate seatbelts in all school buses. My son fell asleep on the school bus once returning from an excursion and fell out of his seat into the aisle. Thank goodness he didn't hit his head. Had he been strapped in with a seatbelt, this would not have happened. Priceless!
50.	James McCarter	Honolulu, HI	Dating back to when I was in Middle School and the seat belt law came into affect for automobiles I often thought this type law was a given. I have never been able to figure out why our most cherish commodity our youth are not protected while traveling to and from school and school related events. This is simply way over due. I'm an Athletic Director at a High School here in Hawaii and this proposal has my utmost support. There simply is no price tag on life. If it saves one child's life it is worth every penny.
51.	M. Okano	Honolulu, HI	Imagine the impact this could have. Please be proactive. My child is my life. Please help to protect her and all our youngsters in our state.
52.	Lisa Miyamoto	Honolulu, HI	I have always wondered why this was never brought up before...seeing as we give adults no option to wear/not wear a seatbelt for their own safety...why wouldn't we do the same to keep our kids safe?!

	Name	From	Comments
53.	R.M. Vergara	Honolulu, HI	If we and our children are legally required to wear seat belts in our cars, shouldn't they also be legally required to wear seat belts in school buses? School buses are motor vehicles; they can still get into an accident. We teach our children to buckle up in our cars, why not a school bus? Why aren't children being protected in school buses? Aren't they important enough?
54.	Stephanie Wong	Honolulu, HI	Safer school buses in Hawaii would be wonderful.
55.	Chrissie Shimabukuro	Honolulu, HI	Please keep our children safe while riding on school buses by passing this bill. Mahalo!
56.	Masumi Masamitsu	Honolulu, HI	
57.	Cathy Chong	Kailua, HI	I want my child and all children to be safe when transported in school buses for school events. We have an excellent car seat and seat belt law that covers our children well. It doesn't make sense to put them in a bus without the same safety considerations.
58.	Sharon Price	Honolulu, HI	I would like my children to participate in school field trips and knowing that they would be strapped in while traveling to and from the location is extremely important to us. Please pass this bill!
59.	LAURA CASEY	Kaneohe, HI	Please please pass this bill. Does it make any sense at all that HPD will pull over and ticket a driver not wearing a seat belt in Hawaii, yet our precious keiki are riding daily in vehicles without the same protection??? Consider the consequences!
60.	Leah Rigg	Honolulu, HI	I can only add to what everyone else has said - the law is so adamant about seatbelts in cars that it's inane to not include them in school buses; it's such a double standard.
61.	Jana Kurzeja	Kailua, HI	This has been a worry of mine for over 9 years when our oldest began school. In the beginning I avoided allowing my son to attend field trips because of the lack of safety on buses! Now that I have two children in school I am even more concerned for their safety as well as others! It's not right, and there needs to be a change! We always wear a seatbelt in the car and a bus should be no different!
62.	jennifer binney	kailua, HI	
63.	Sabino Manzulli	Kailua, HI	
64.	Jonathan Steiner	Honolulu, HI	I want my kid kept safe. There is no reason not to require seatbelts, the cost would be well worth it.
65.	Karen Corpuz	Honolulu, HI	My two children are grown and in college. But having accompanied them on many excursions during their elementary school years, I know how important bus safety is. When kids are a mere forty pounds, the slightest bump on the road can send them flying. I realize that equipping <i>(continues on next page)</i>

	Name	From	Comments
65.	Karen Corpuz	Honolulu, HI	<i>(continued from previous page)</i> buses with seat belts will be costly, but the welfare of children is surely a more important issue? Even if this requires raising excursion costs for parents, I support adding seat belts on buses. Your serious and thoughtful consideration is much appreciated by this parent.
66.	Karen Seth	Kaneohe, HI	I have two beautiful daughters in public school, and their lives are priceless as is each child's life. If we can save at least one child's life by adding seat belts to school buses, then it would be worth it. I work in a trauma center that sees one too many child for injuries as a result of not wearing seat belts. Please pass this important legislation.
67.	Chenoa Morris	Honolulu, HI	Hawaii has comprehensive seat belt, car seat and booster seat laws for adults, infants and toddlers while traveling in cars and trucks. Why wouldn't children also be required to wear a seat belt while traveling in a bus?
68.	Gina Mahal	HONOLULU, HI	As the mother of two and an elementary school teacher I cannot express the importance of safety for our keiki! I would be a willing parent to pay extra for the cost of a field trip, knowing the bus came equipped with seat belts. There has got to be some way to fund seat belts on school buses! I can't think of anything more important to our students than their safety and well-being!
69.	Dianne Sanchez	Kailua, HI	
70.	Cheryl Kunimoto	Honolulu, HI	We make it law for children to ride in car seats, booster seats and for all people to ride with seat belts. Why on earth do we allow our children to be in a position to get hurt by not wearing a seatbelt on a bus?!! We must implement this seat belt law for all buses!!
71.	meghan buck	Honolulu, HI	If adult drivers are ticketed for not wearing seat belts, it is absurd that the law does not demand the protection of children as passengers on school buses with seat belts. Isn't the driver provided with a belt and expected to wear it?
72.	Tiffany Edwards Hunt	Kurtistown, HI	Please put seat belts on school buses!
73.	Robin Polhemus	Kailua, HI	Even as a child I wondered why there were no seat belts in buses. I felt that maybe we, as children, didn't matter enough to be protected. Why did cars have seat belts for their riders and buses did not? Buses are bigger, less stable than cars and have more room for a body to bounce around in and become injured. Seat belts in school buses are a great idea and a long time coming.
74.	Virge Janus	Honolulu, HI	Our children are not only our country's future, but the most important beings in our lives, so please do whatever it takes to protect them from harm...PLEASE INSTALL SEATBELTS IN BUSES!!!

	Name	From	Comments
75.	Holly-Ann Marchant	Honolulu, HI	I would definitely pay more for my child's bus fare to incorporate this safety measure. Unfortunately even if there are sufficient funds to install these seat belts the government needs to make it a mandatory requirement. Please pass this law for the life of my 10-year old son and for all children!
76.	Kathi Meechan	Honolulu, HI	Please help us to protect our children and families! How much is your child worth?
77.	Sheri Gushi	Honolulu, HI	I am an elementary school teacher and have a daughter of my own who will be starting kindergarten next year. I am concerned about her safety during field trips since I know that buses are always taken to get the children to their destination. There are many careless drivers these days out on the road trying to "multitask." They may be eating, drinking, talking on cell phones, text messaging, smoking or doing who knows what. The bottom line is they're not paying attention to the road and that can lead to accidents. Please help ensure the safety of Hawaii's keiki by requiring them to wear safety belts on buses. They wear them in all other vehicles, why not buses?
78.	David Buck	Honolulu, HI	Why not use money made from ticketing adult drivers not wearing their seat belts to pay for the school buses to be equipped with belts?
79.	Heather Shank	Kailua, HI	We must use boosters and carseats, but if the kids are on the bus - NOTHING?? This is so important to the safety of our children.
80.	Worreen Hamocon	Kailua, HI	Please protect our keiki while they are on the bus! Accidents happen, put seat belts on the school buses.
81.	Leona Tomita	Honolulu, HI	
82.	John Kilpatrick	Las Vegas, NV	No matter how good the bus driver may be, accidents happen. Seat belts have been proven time and again to be effective against injury and death.
83.	Queenie Komori	Honolulu, HI	Please pass this bill. Mahalo! Better to be safe than sorry.
84.	Murray and Shari Grounds	Kailua, HI	Please pass this bill in order to keep our little ones safe!!! Any injury is one too many!!!
85.	Shawna Holeso	Kaneohe, HI	If the law requires our keiki to use seatbelts/boosters in personal motor vehicles, then it only makes sense to have such safety devices available in school buses. Let's do what we can to help protect our keiki.
86.	Susan Marshall	Iahaina, HI	
87.	Jill Meghan Natividad	Honolulu, HI	I can't believe it's taken this long to get seat belts on buses. These are our children's lives we are talking about & their safety. Aloha, Jill Natividad

	Name	From	Comments
88.	Davis Hanai	Honolulu, HI	I don't have children, but I still believe this is a wonderful bill. I hope buses do have seatbelts by the time my future children are school aged!
89.	Lisa Hyde	Kailua, HI	
90.	Valerie Markland	Kailua, HI	Please keep our children safe - Hawaii needs them!
91.	Sara Nieling	Kaneohe, HI	Seatbelts are mandated in automobiles for both adults and children. It seems odd that that they are not mandated on vehicles that are driven on a daily basis and carry almost exclusively children. The safety of our children is extremely important and I believe that seatbelts on schoolbuses is a good step towards better ensuring our childrens' safety.
92.	Johnalyn Nakamura	Mililani, HI	After viewing crash tests on the effects of seat belts, I cannot believe lawmakers have not made it a law to equip school buses with seat belts. It only takes one accident and within one second a child's life could be taken. Our children put their faith in us that we will protect them. If we don't take measures to try to change the law we will be failing as parents and if the lawmakers don't make the change, they will be failing as civil servants.
93.	Svetlana Jovic-Bianchetti	Honolulu, HI	We have a law that requires kids in cars to be in car-seats, with boosters, seat belts. In all the commercial vehicles (buses, vans..) passengers under 18 need to wear seat belts. But there aren't any in school buses, where they only transport children, very young ones too ?! We need to remember that the school buses are not the only ones in traffic and even the slightest but sudden breaking can send little ones flying through the bus. I wholeheartedly support this law.
94.	Stephanie Roberts	Kailua, HI	
95.	Cathy Sussman	Kailua, HI	Please help keep our keiki safe by having seat belts installed on school buses!
96.	Fredrica Cassiday	honolulu, HI	Seat belts save lives. It is the law in the USA that all children and adults buckle up in all other road motor vehicles. It is a no-brainer that seat belts should be mandatory on all school buses and be designed to fit small children. All buses in London--i.e. public, school, double decker, private, tour, etc. are required to have seat belts and the driver is responsible for enforcing that all passengers buckle up or the driver cannot drive the bus. The passenger refusing to buckle up will be evicted from the bus and can be levied a significant fine. The bus cannot move until all passengers buckled up their seat belt.
97.	John Smith	Ellenburg Dep, NY	

	Name	From	Comments
98.	Jinny Aki	Honolulu, HI	Being a public school teacher and traveling on school buses, I feel very strongly that seat belts be installed on school buses. Seat belts are the law in vehicles and should be in school buses to provide and teach safety to our children. Being a mother myself, I always make sure my child is buckled up. This is important to protect our children of Hawaii.
99.	Ikaika Aki	Honolulu, HI	
100.	Claudia Lee	Honolulu, HI	It's amazing that it is not a requirement. Children under 70 lbs. have to be in booster seats in a car so why would they be safe without even a seatbelt on a bus??? That really makes me angry! I won't allow my 5 year-old daughter on a school bus even if that means we are limited in our selection of schools. My children's lives are priceless.
101.	Donald Lee	Honolulu, HI	To me this is a no brainer. Do something worthwhile for a change. You can NOT put a value on a child's life.
102.	Kelsey Turk	Paris, TX	"Only through our efforts, can we truly make a difference." -Kelsey Turk [www.myspace.com/kelseyturk]
103.	Nalu Kukea	Honolulu, HI	Seems like a no- brainer! I'm sure the bus driver has to wear a seat belt, why not all the kids also.
104.	Keala McKenzie	Kailua, HI	I can't believe that we even have to petition for this- it should have been in place years ago. I'm fearful every time my daughter goes on a field trip. Lets take care of this sooner than later.
105.	wallace wong	kailua, HI	
106.	Lillian Romano	Kaneohe, HI	Please support this bill. Our children are precious to us and we need to keep them safe in all situations. Our children go on 3-5 excursions a year and each time I pray nothing happens while they are in transport. Please don't wait for an accident to occur, please pass this bill!
107.	TAYLOR WEIDNER	Lakewood, CO	
108.	Jenny Breed	Kailua, HI	Please consider this a priority, protecting our future generation, bus safety is critical
109.	Brooke Loughridge	Honolulu, HI	
110.	lacey pfeffer	honolulu, HI	I as a mother of a 4 year old who took his first field trip in a school bus this year I was shocked to learn that they did not have seatbelts! I have my son in a 5 point harness carseat in my car and he has NOTHING in his school bus. Does this seem right to you?

	Name	From	Comments
111.	Luke Kusumoto	Honolulu, HI	I worry about the high costs of potential lawsuits related to personal injuries/deaths related to bus accidents. The government must understand that the protection of our children is a worthy investment in our future.
112.	tiffany schorer	Machesney Park, IL	It's the law to wear a seat belt. So why aren't there seat belts on school buses? Tell me why it's okay to not wear a seat belt on a school bus but in a car it's the law? Doesn't make any sense to me. I know as long as there aren't seat belts on school buses I will not allow my child to ride one. And I believe that the bus drivers, school personnel, and the makers of the buses should be charged with endangerment. And the parents should have the right to file any charges possible.
113.	Carolyn Ali	Honolulu, HI	It is criminal that school buses do not have seatbelts. Every time my child has to get on one of those 'death traps' I cringe in fear and pray for his safe return. I never understood why it wasn't the law that the buses have them. I really hope it isn't a matter of money. That would be shameful. Please support the laws to make seatbelts on school buses mandatory. I'm sure every parent agrees that our children are the most important thing to us - let's please keep them safe.
114.	Patti Johnson	Haleiwa, HI	
115.	Tana Hilliard	Kamuela, HI	I am a mother and a teacher. It has been bewildering to me that there have been no seat belt laws for school buses. I guess that it has been considered just too expensive to protect the children of America while they are on their way to school. It's another example of how off course some of our leaders get once they are elected. Tana Hilliard
116.	beverly binney	kailua, HI	I am appalled that school buses do not have seat belts. How can we have laws about seat belts and not include buses?
117.	Jade Wong	Honolulu, HI	This Bill will prevent serious injuries and unnecessary death of school children by complying with safety regulations suggested by The National Coalition for School Bus safety. The following organizations are supporters of installing seat belts on school buses: American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, American College of Emergency Physicians, American Medical Association, Clarkstown Parent Teacher Association, National Parent Teacher Association, People Advocating Seat Belt Safety, Physicians for Automotive Safety and Society for Adolescent Medicine. The following states and country support this issue: Florida, Louisiana, California, New Jersey, New York and Great Britain. Four children died in Minnesota on a school bus last month due to negligence. I urge you to pass this bill and prevent such tragedies in the State of Hawaii.

	Name	From	Comments
118.	Jennifer Spengler	Honolulu, HI	
119.	Kimberly Howsley	Honolulu, HI	
120.	Suzanne Maurer	Honolulu, HI	
121.	leilani bonds	kaneohe, HI	Every state should enforce that seat belts be installed in school buses. It is requires by law that we buckle up in our cars.
122.	Charla Ota	Kaneohe, HI	Please pass this bill to require seat belts in school buses. There is no need to wait for a tragic accident first. I have been told by several quality preschool administrators that they do not order buses with seatbelts because of cost issues. However, if the seatbelts were mandatory, I should think the bus companies could amortize the cost, and we would be ensuring our keiki's safety. Please pass this. Thank you.
123.	Kehaulani Delostrico	Hilo, HI	Thank you for making our children's safety a top priority.
124.	Elizabeth Wong	Honolulu, HI	Do you know how bumpy school buses are? I have chaperoned numerous school activities for the preschool/kindergarten age group and have seen too many kids sway, bounce, and get "boo-boos" from even normal school bus operation. Please retrofit ALL school buses with seat belts! While you're at it, please remember to select a design that will properly protect the smallest/youngest passengers. Normal seat belts will not protect small children who still require car seats and booster seats when riding in automobiles.
125.	Jovie Tabiolo	Mililani, HI	When my son goes on a field trip I hope and pray that nothing will happen in the school bus because not being buckled-up is so dangerous and scary. Please put seat belts in the school buses for our childrens safety.
126.	Nate Kawamata	Mililani, HI	Its a required by law for children to wear seat belts, so why not on a school bus? Please put seat belts on the school buses. Thank you!!!
127.	Christopher Ewan	Honolulu, HI	
128.	William Wong	Kaneohe, HI	This is a long time coming, seatbelts are mandatory for passenger vehicles, why not for school buses? They travel as fast and are not as maneuverable nor have other safety features such as airbags...
129.	dave lee	Honolulu, HI	i am for this and i approve this message.....
130.	Jessica Moore	Ewa Beach, HI	Please please do this it is very important for the safety of our Kids! My kids are my world!
131.	Mike Downs	Sweet Springs, MO	buses should have seat belts,they are unsafe without them and our children are the future my child is worth more than anything in the world

	Name	From	Comments
132.	Richard Hollister	Tucson, AZ	
133.	Kelly Allen	Honolulu, HI	
134.	Lisa Palm	Honolulu, HI	Please keep our children safe!!!
135.	Prima Baily	Canandaigua, NY	
136.	JoAnna B.	Marina, CA	States require seat belts in cars and trucks why are we not enforcing protection for our children in school buses?This is a major need!make our children's safety a top priority. Life!Future!They are Gods children
137.	Raelene Shinchi	honolulu, HI	I was truly horrified when I watched the video. The children were thrown around like rag dolls. I had no idea how unsafe the children were when riding the bus. In Hawaii almost everyone wheres their seat belt because we are required to. Why is it that buses that carry our precious children are not required to have seat belts.
138.	MaryAnn Tilton	Honolulu, HI	I have Grandchildren and feel is necessary to have seatbelts on ALL buses for children and other pasengers. A child must have a restraint in a car,,,,what is the difference between a car and a bus. Please consider this plea. Thank you.
139.	VELTTA MONDEREN	WAIANA, HI	HAVING SEAT BELTS IN ANY VEHICLE JUST MAKES SENSE PERIOD. BUSES ARE MORE DANGEROUS THEN CARS!!! THE RIDE IS ALOT ROUGHER ON THE PASSENGERS & IT IS OFTEN DRIVEN BY AN IRRATE OR UNDERQUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL WHO IS JUST DOING THEIR JOB~ SO IT IS CRAZY THAT THERE ISNT ANY SAFETY HARNESSES TO PROTECT THE RIDERS. IT MAKES NO SENSE AT ALL THAT THE LAW REQUIRES 2-4 PASSENGER VEHICLES TO HAVE & USE SAFETY BELTS AT ALL TIMES, BUT IN A BUS WHERE THE RISKS ARE A LOT HIGHER, SEAT BELTS ARENT EVEN OFFERED. CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE AND ARE WORTH MORE THAN ALL THE RICHES IN THE WORLD. A GOVERNMENT THAT DOESNT PROTECT THEM AS OUR INVESTMENTS TO OUR FUTURE IS A FAILURE.
140.	Kimberley Limasa	Kapolei, HI	All children should be required to wear seat belts in buses as they are required to do in standard automobiles. The issue is a no-brainer! Seat belts save lives!
141.	Lorna K	Waiana, HI	I don't understand why by law we need to wear seatbelts while in out vehicles but it is okay for you to ride the bus and not wear seatbelts. This make no sense. If its the law it should be done no matter what. Especially when there are children involved. I have four children and I love them all. I would do anything and everything in my power to make sure that my children are safe. My children are my world!!!!!!!!!!!!

	Name	From	Comments
142.	Heather Hall	haleiwa, HI	We have laws that keep our children safe in car seats and laws to make sure everyone wears a seatbelt to keep them safe so why would we not make it mandatory to have seat belts on school buses. I wouldn't let my kids ride school buses just because there are no seat belts. What's the point of making all car passengers wear a seatbelt if we don't even make our children wear them on school buses.